

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CAIRO 02401 051314Z

47

ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-09 ISO-00 CU-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-03 H-01 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05 OMB-01 ABF-01 TRSE-00 /084 W

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PARIS FOR NESCO

EO 11652: NA

TAGS: PFOR, UNESCO, EG, XF

REF: PARIS 5204

1. FOLLOWING IS FULL TEXT OF AL-AHRAM'S EDITORIAL, ENTITLED
SAVE HONOR OF UNESCO. QUOTE: UNESCO NOW FACING FINANCIAL
CATASTROPHE GROWING OUT OF CUT-OFF OF CONTRIBUTIONS FROM VARIOUS
QUARTERS, INCLUDING AMERICA. THESE QUARTERS CONTRIBUTED ONE
FOURTH OF UNESCO BUDGET. CONTRIBUTIONS STOPPED AFTER RESOLUTIONS
TAKEN BY UNESCO AT ITS LAST GENERAL CONFERENCE TO DEPRIVE
ISRAEL FROM CONTINUING ACTIVITIES AT REGIONAL LEVEL, BECAUSE ISRAEL
CONTINUES TO CHANGE FEATURES AND RELICS OF OCCUPIED CITY OF
JERUSALEM.

THERE IS TENDENCY NOW ON PART OF SOME UNESCO OFFICIALS TO FREEZE
OR DROP THESE RESOLUTIONS TAKEN AGAINST ISRAEL SO AS TO SAVE
UNESCO FROM ITS FINANCIAL PLIGHT. THIS IS UNREASONABLE,
BECAUSE FINANCIAL BLACKMAIL SHOULD NOT BE ALLOWED TO MAKE
THE ORGANIZATION BACKTRACK OR REFRAIN FROM IMPLEMENTATION OF
ITS RESOLUTIONS. ARAB LEAGUE AND ARAB STATES SHOULD TAKE
IMMEDIATE ACTION TO MAKE UP FOR LOSS IN ORGANIZATION'S BUDGET
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PAGE 02 CAIRO 02401 051314Z

NOT ONLY TO DEFEND RESOLUTIONS, BUT TO PROTECT HONOR OF

UNESCO. UNESCO RESOLUTION IS IN DEFENSE OF VERY ESSENCE OF ARAB RIGHTS AND SANCTITY OF RELIGION. THIS WOULD ALSO FOIL BLACKMAIL WHICH IS BEING USED TO PRESSURE PUBLIC OPINION. IT WOULD ALSO SERVE TO COUNTER ISRAEL'S EXPANSIONIST AMBITIONS. END QUOTE.

2. IN DISCUSSIONS WITH FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIALS DURING PAST MONTHS WE HAVE BEEN MADE AWARE OF DEPTH OF FEELINGS EGYPTIANS HAVE REGARDING JERUSALEM EXCAVATIONS. WE DOUBT WHETHER THERE IS ANYTHING TO BE GAINED FROM DEMARCHE TO GOE AS MATTERS NOW STAND. IN ORDER STOP PUBLICATION OF SUCH ARTICLES, MATTER WOULD HAVE TO BE TAKEN TO PRESIDENT SADAT, WHO IS DEVOUT MOSLEM AND MAY ALSO BE EXPECTED TO FEEL STRONGLY ON SUBJECT. BELIEVE THAT THIS IS NOT THE TIME, JUST PRIOR TO SECRETARY'S VISIT, TO RAISE MATTER OF THIS SORT WHERE WE KNOW WE CAN MAKE NO PROGRESS.

3. DIRECTOR GENERAL M'BOW IN HIS VISIT TO CAIRO ON FEB 23 MET WITH SADAT AND PRIMIN HEGAZY. UNDERSTAND HE PROVIDED THEM AND OTHER TOP LEVEL GOE OFFICIALS WITH BALANCED EXPLANATION OF OVERALL CURRENT UNESCO SITUATION AND DISCUSSED MATTERS RELATED TO 18TH GENERAL CONFERENCE RESOLUTIONS. BELIEVE THERE IS SOMETHING TO BE SAID FOR ALLOWING RESPONSIBLE UNESCO OFFICIALS TO ACT ON THESE PROBLEMS WITH INDIVIDUAL MEMBER STATES RATHER THAN HAVE US IN FOREFRONT. EILTS

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